

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 09838 251058Z  
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 /018 W  
-----046181 251108Z /23  
P 250608Z JUL 78  
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1973

UNCLAS HONG KONG 9838

FOR SY/MGT/EX FM RSS

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ASEC  
SUBJECT: SEABEE RENTS AND UTILITIES

REF: (A) STATE 185999; (B) HONG KONG 09584; (C) HONG KONG 7845;  
(D) 77 STATE 156723; (E) 77 HONG KONG 7344

1. AS YOU ARE AWARE, THE OIC/RTC WHO PREVIOUSLY HANDLED THE SEABEE FUNDING MATTERS FOR HONG KONG DEPARTED POST ON JUNE 20 1978, FOR TRANSFER TO THE DEPARTMENT. IN THIS REGARD, IF THE FOLLOWING IS NOT CLEAR OR IF YOU FEEL IT IS INCONSISTENT WITH SY RECORDS, YOU MAY WISH TO CLARIFY IT BY CONTACTING JOHN BAGNAL IN SY/OPS/T. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING FROM COLLATING THE INFORMATION IN THE AVAILABLE FILES AND WITH THE HELP OF THE B&F OFFICE HERE THAT THE YEARLY RENT UNDER THE LEASING AGREEMENT FOR THE SEABEE QUARTERS IS PAID EACH AUG 1 (FOURTH QUARTER) FOR ONE YEAR IN ADVANCE. REF C, DATED JUN 20 1978, (SUBJECT: FY-78 BUDGETING) REQUESTS THE OBLIGATION OF \$16,107 FOR THE SEABEE RENT WHICH WILL BE PAID AUG 1979 FOR THE LEASE YEAR AUG 79-80. REF E, DATED 6/27/77, PARA 2, REQUESTED THE AMOUNT OF \$15,175 BE OBLIGATED FOR FY-78 TO BE PAID IN AUG 78 FOR LEASE YEAR AUG 78-AUG 79. THE RTC RECORDS HAVE BEEN REVIEWED AND FAIL TO DISCLOSE ANY RESPONSE FROM SY/EX IN REGARD TO REF E ABOVE. PLS  
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ADVISE ON AN EXPEDITIOUS BASIS AS THE RENT MUST BE PAID ON AUG 1 1978.

2. MORE SEABEE MATTERS - THE RTC HAS NOT HEARD FROM SY/MGT/EX ON THE REQUESTS FOR REUPHOLSTERY AND NEW DRAPERIES AND MANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH ARE OVERDUE FOR REPLACEMENT FOR THE SEABEE QUARTERS. AS THIS MATTER HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF SEVERAL

CABLES AND LETTERS DATING BACK TO DEC 1977, THE RSS SUGGESTS TO AVOID THIS COMMUNICATION GAP THAT ALL MONETARY SUPPORT FOR THE SEABEE RENT AND FURNISHINGS BE NEGOTIATED BETWEEN SY AND THE REGIONAL BUREAU IN THE DEPARTMENT AND REIMBURSEMENT BE ROUTINELY HANDLED IN THAT MANNER. THE DISPERSING OF THREE SEABEES FROM THE RTC HONG KONG PERHAPS DOES NOT LEND ITSELF TO THE FORMER SUPPORT PROCEEDURES. AS YOU ARE AWARE THIS MAY THE HONG KONG SEABEE MARRIED A STATE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE, AND DUE TO THE NON-RESPONSE FROM SY, THE RSS TURNED TO THE POST FOR MAINTENANCE TYPE SUPPORT BASED ON RIGHTS OF THE SEABEE WIFE AS A STATE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE. THE POST HAS AGREED TO REFURBISH THE FURNITURE AND RUGS IN THE SEABEE QUARTERS. THIS AD HOC ARRANGEMENT HELPS THE CURRENT SEABEE'S SITUATION BUT ASSUMING THE NEXT SEABEE DOES NOT HAVE A STATE DEPARTMENT WORKING WIFE, THE PROBLEMS WILL AGAIN OCCUR OF HAVING TO ASK SY FOR SUPPORT. THE RSS IS NOT AWARE OF THE FULL REASONS FOR THE UNIQUE SUPPORT ARRANGEMENT FOR THE RTC SEABEE BUT AGAIN VENTURES THE PROPOSAL THAT SINCE THE FURNITURE MAINTENANCE AND LEASING IS IN FACT HANDLED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION WOULDN'T IT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE ADMIN OFFICER TO SIMPLY INCLUDE IN HIS ANNUAL BUDGE THESE EXPENSES AND ROUTINELY SEEK REIMBURSEMENT FROM SY THROUGH REGIONAL BUREAU ACCOUNTING CHANNELS.  
SHOESMITH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 185999, 78 HONG KONG 9584, 78 HONG KONG 7845, 77 STATE 156723, 77 HONG KONG 7344  
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**Review Markings:**  
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